



## **Yuma County Local Emergency Planning Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**April 14, 2016**

#### **PRESENT:**

Mario Avalos, Helena Chemical Corporation, Group 5  
Tony Badilla, Emergency Management Director, Group 2  
Robert Barocio, Yuma Proving Grounds, Group 2  
Chief Paul DeAnda, Somerton-Cocopah Fire Department, Group 2  
Jeff Denman, citizen at large, Group 4  
Mike Erfert, Yuma Fire Department, Group 2  
Greg Ferguson, Yuma County Board of Supervisors, Group 1  
Flora Hatch, Yuma County Emergency Management, Alternate, Group 2  
Manuel (Manny) Hernandez, City of Yuma Environmental, Group 2  
Mark Hutsell, Yuma Regional Medical Center, Group 2  
Darren Simmons, Yuma County Sheriff's Office, Group 1  
David Slade, Yuma Cogeneration Associates, Group 5  
Michelle Smith, Yuma County Public Health Services District, Group 2  
Ray Smith, Battalion Chief, Somerton Cocopah Fire Dept., Group 1  
Kevin Tunell, Communications Director, Group 3

#### **ABSENT:**

Tom Batson, American Red Cross, Group 4  
Tim Beeler, MCAS Yuma, Group 2  
Paige Brooks, Sunland Chemical Co., Group 5  
Michael Callahan, Gowan Milling, Group 5  
Gary Elk, Western Pre-cooling, Group 5  
Dustin Fields, Yuma Fire Department, Group 2  
Michael Fila, Cocopah Indian Tribe, Group 2  
Earl Hamilton, MCAS Disaster Preparedness, Group 2  
John Hannon, Rural Metro, Group 2  
Marc Holyfield, San Luis Fire Department, Group 2  
Brian Hoon, Yuma Proving Grounds, Group 5  
Steve Irr, City of Yuma, Alternate to Mayor Nicholls, Group 1  
Mike Kemp, Driscolls, Group 5  
Michael Klein, YCIPTA, Alternate to Shelly Kreger, Group 2  
Gary Koehn, Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, Group 5  
Shelly Kreger, YCIPTA, Group 2

Michael LeBrun, Yuma County Public Health Services District, Group 2  
Maria (Patti) Michael, Land O'Lakes Company, Group 5  
Mayor Douglas J Nicholls, City of Yuma, Group 1  
Tim Pudleiner, Safety Manager, Achieve Human Services, Group 4  
Noel Robles, Shaw Inc., Group 5  
Sgt. David Rodriguez, Wellton Police Department, Alternate Group 2  
Charles Ruerup, DPW, YPG, Group 5  
Mike Walton, Yuma Fire Department, Group 2  
Denise Whisman, Ferrell Gas, Group 5  
Sheriff Leon Wilmot, Group 1  
Rosario Zavala, Quechan Police Department, Group 2

A quorum was present with 15 attendees and all groups represented.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

**Chairman Mario Avalos** called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. at the Yuma County Public Health Auditorium, 2200 W. 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Yuma, Arizona on April 14, 2016.

**2. INTRODUCTION:**

Members and guests introduced themselves. Guests included:

Ann Farley, Hospice of Yuma  
Rudy Wallace, CERT  
Sam Yarbrough, YACS  
George Scott III, YACS  
Yvonne Rodriguez, ADEQ/AZSERC  
Travis Qualls, ADOT

**3. MINUTES:**

Upon a motion made by **Simmons**, and a second by **DeAnda**, the minutes of the meeting held February 4, 2016, were approved by the members.

**4. YUMA AUXILIARY SERVICE PRESENTATION (YACS):**

**George Scott III**, YACS, gave a presentation on HAM Radio and its impact on Emergency Management and the community.

**5. HMEP GRANT RENEWAL for FY 2016-2017:**

**Badilla** noted that the current grant has been awarded and \$3,000 has been paid to the Ammonia Safety Days, with a \$5,500 balance remaining for travel and training. For the 2016/2017 grant, a draft application has been tentatively submitted. The process is changing as the grant funds are being transitioned over to ADEQ.

**Hernandez** stated that he has requested funding for HAZMAT trainings to help cover the cost of printing books and other training material needed, but has yet to receive any funds. He asked if **Badilla** would consider those costs in the grant application. **Erfert** asked if it was possible to get the material in PDF format. **Badilla** stated yes and there are apps available to view the information. **Badilla** noted that the Yuma County Office of Emergency Management's HMEP grant files for the previous two years were reviewed via a site monitoring visit from Mark Howard, Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs, with a positive outcome.

**6. MEMBERSHIP STATUS**

**a. Approval of Renewals**

There were none at this time.

**b. Introduction of potential members; possible action on Membership Applications**

- Ann Farley, Hospice of Yuma, Group II
- Rudy Wallace, CERT, Group IV
- Frank Venegas, Cocopah Indian Tribe, Group II

Upon a motion made by **Denham** and a second by **Hernandez**, the membership applications of Ann Farley, Rudy Wallace, and Frank Venegas were approved.

**c. Approval of Designated Alternate**

There were none at this time.

**d. Approval of Resignation**

- Flora Hatch, YCOEM, Group II

Upon a motion by **Denham** and a second by **M. Smith**, the resignation of Flora Hatch was approved.

**7. New Business- Discussion and Possible Action:**

**8. Old Business- Discussion and Possible Action:**

**Badilla** recapped the Yuma Area Ammonia Safety Days event that was held on February 11, 2016. The event netted over 300 people from California, Mexico and around Arizona. **Hernandez** asked if the committee has ever thought about including aspects that are not just ammonia related. **Badilla** stated that is exactly what they did this year with fire extinguisher training, CPR, and other various trainings. The committee, however, is always open to suggestions. **Badilla** noted the committee is on a break until June when they will reconvene to begin planning for the next event.

**9. Chair Status Report, Chairman Mario Avalos**

No report at this time.

**10. Good of the Order/Announcements**

**Denman** stated that the Household Hazardous Waste program had a large turn out and may be one of the biggest events to date. The next one will be the second Saturday in July, which is July 9<sup>th</sup>. **Wallace** noted CERT's participation in the Household Hazardous Waste collection event as well.

**Badilla** stated that he sent out some information regarding several trainings coming up and also reminded the committee of MCAS's upcoming region exercise April 25 – 29, 2016. The scenario will be terrorist driven with a fuel emergency at 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and 3E being the target.

**M. Smith** stated that the Yuma County Public Health Department is still working on Zika mitigation plans, stating that there is currently a task force in place who are aggressively planning. **Barocio** asked where the nearest Zika infection to us was located. **M. Smith** noted that while there have been a couple infections in the Phoenix area, they have been travel associated. There have been no local transmission cases, but reminded the committee that there currently is a large population of baby Aedes mosquitos in Yuma County.

**M. Smith** stated an Ebola tabletop exercise needs to be conducted soon; she also mentioned that the March 23<sup>rd</sup> Mass Care Drill held at the LDS Church had a great turn out with a wide variety of participants.

**Badilla** stated that he recently attended a Palo Verde tabletop noting that parts of Yuma County are within the 50 mile range for contamination. He reviewed the information that he learned from the exercise and noted that the impact to Yuma County and its large leafy green crops was discussed.

**Hernandez** thanked the CERT volunteers for their participation in the Household Hazardous waste collection. He noted the following events/trainings coming up:

- Every year, in April, the City of Yuma sponsors a HAZWOPPER course that brings in a variety of students.
- Monday – Luncheon for Yuma Environmental Safety employees, only five seats left.
- A calendar (attached to the minutes) provided detailing future trainings and events.

**Rodriguez (ADEQ)** encouraged the committee to think about sending people to some upcoming training using the HMEP grant funds. She also stated that ERF will be releasing funds soon and explained the new process for applying for those funds.

**Badilla** asked Hernandez about the recent issue of Quechan sewer water spilling into the Colorado River. Hernandez explained that about a month ago he received a call from BLM regarding sewer leaking into the river; however, upon arrival it was clear that the issue was not City of Yuma's as it was on the California side of the river. The issue was resolved by the Winterhaven Water District. **Ferguson** noted that any water being accepted into the system is a City of Yuma issue, statutorily. **Hernandez** noted that the City of Yuma Legal department determined it was, in fact, not the City of Yuma's issue.

**11. *Call to the Public***

There were none at this time.

**12. *Adjourn***

Upon motion by **Simmons** with a second by **M. Smith**, and with no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 16, 2016, at Yuma County Public Health Auditorium, 2200 W. 28<sup>th</sup> Street, Yuma, Arizona 85364 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Flora Hatch, Financial Assistant  
Yuma County Office of Emergency Management